

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

To:

FENSTER & COMPANY
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY 2002 LTD.
Attn. Fenster, Paul
P.O.Box 10256
IL-49002 Petach Tikva
ISRAEL

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

24/05/2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference

336/03502

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraphs 1 and 4 below

International application No.

PCT/IL 03/00503

International filing date
(day/month/year)

12/06/2003

Applicant

EXISTENT, INC.

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the International Search Report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the International Application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the International Search Report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no International Search Report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.

3. ☐ **With regard to the protest** against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.

☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. **Further action(s):** The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after **18 months** from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90*bis*.1 and 90*bis*.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within **19 months** from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within **20 months** from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority



European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Hans Pettersson

NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220

These Notes are intended to give the basic instructions concerning the filing of amendments under article 19. The Notes are based on the requirements of the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Regulations and the Administrative Instructions under that Treaty. In case of discrepancy between these Notes and those requirements, the latter are applicable. For more detailed information, see also the PCT Applicant's Guide, a publication of WIPO.

In these Notes, "Article", "Rule", and "Section" refer to the provisions of the PCT, the PCT Regulations and the PCT Administrative Instructions, respectively.

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 19

The applicant has, after having received the international search report, one opportunity to amend the claims of the international application. It should however be emphasized that, since all parts of the international application (claims, description and drawings) may be amended during the international preliminary examination procedure, there is usually no need to file amendments of the claims under Article 19 except where, e.g. the applicant wants the latter to be published for the purposes of provisional protection or has another reason for amending the claims before international publication. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that provisional protection is available in some States only.

What parts of the international application may be amended?

Under Article 19, only the claims may be amended.

During the international phase, the claims may also be amended (or further amended) under Article 34 before the International Preliminary Examining Authority. The description and drawings may only be amended under Article 34 before the International Examining Authority.

Upon entry into the national phase, all parts of the international application may be amended under Article 28 or, where applicable, Article 41.

When?

Within 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report or 16 months from the priority date, whichever time limit expires later. It should be noted, however, that the amendments will be considered as having been received on time if they are received by the International Bureau after the expiration of the applicable time limit but before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication (Rule 46.1).

Where not to file the amendments?

The amendments may only be filed with the International Bureau and not with the receiving Office or the International Searching Authority (Rule 46.2).

Where a demand for international preliminary examination has been/is filed, see below.

How?

Either by cancelling one or more entire claims, by adding one or more new claims or by amending the text of one or more of the claims as filed.

A replacement sheet must be submitted for each sheet of the claims which, on account of an amendment or amendments, differs from the sheet originally filed.

All the claims appearing on a replacement sheet must be numbered in Arabic numerals. Where a claim is cancelled, no renumbering of the other claims is required. In all cases where claims are renumbered, they must be renumbered consecutively (Administrative Instructions, Section 205(b)).

The amendments must be made in the language in which the international application is to be published.

What documents must/may accompany the amendments?

Letter (Section 205(b)):

The amendments must be submitted with a letter.

The letter will not be published with the international application and the amended claims. It should not be confused with the "Statement under Article 19(1)" (see below, under "Statement under Article 19(1)").

The letter must be in English or French, at the choice of the applicant. However, if the language of the international application is English, the letter must be in English; if the language of the international application is French, the letter must be in French.

NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220 (continued)

The letter must indicate the differences between the claims as filed and the claims as amended. It must, in particular, indicate, in connection with each claim appearing in the international application (it being understood that identical indications concerning several claims may be grouped), whether

- (i) the claim is unchanged;
- (ii) the claim is cancelled;
- (iii) the claim is new;
- (iv) the claim replaces one or more claims as filed;
- (v) the claim is the result of the division of a claim as filed.

The following examples illustrate the manner in which amendments must be explained in the accompanying letter:

1. [Where originally there were 48 claims and after amendment of some claims there are 51]:
"Claims 1 to 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37 to 48 replaced by amended claims bearing the same numbers; claims 30, 33 and 36 unchanged; new claims 49 to 51 added."
2. [Where originally there were 15 claims and after amendment of all claims there are 11]:
"Claims 1 to 15 replaced by amended claims 1 to 11."
3. [Where originally there were 14 claims and the amendments consist in cancelling some claims and in adding new claims]:
"Claims 1 to 6 and 14 unchanged; claims 7 to 13 cancelled; new claims 15, 16 and 17 added." or
"Claims 7 to 13 cancelled; new claims 15, 16 and 17 added; all other claims unchanged."
4. [Where various kinds of amendments are made]:
"Claims 1-10 unchanged; claims 11 to 13, 18 and 19 cancelled; claims 14, 15 and 16 replaced by amended claim 14; claim 17 subdivided into amended claims 15, 16 and 17; new claims 20 and 21 added."

"Statement under article 19(1)" (Rule 46.4)

The amendments may be accompanied by a statement explaining the amendments and indicating any impact that such amendments might have on the description and the drawings (which cannot be amended under Article 19(1)).

The statement will be published with the international application and the amended claims.

It must be in the language in which the international application is to be published.

It must be brief, not exceeding 500 words if in English or if translated into English.

It should not be confused with and does not replace the letter indicating the differences between the claims as filed and as amended. It must be filed on a separate sheet and must be identified as such by a heading, preferably by using the words "Statement under Article 19(1)."

It may not contain any disparaging comments on the international search report or the relevance of citations contained in that report. Reference to citations, relevant to a given claim, contained in the international search report may be made only in connection with an amendment of that claim.

Consequence if a demand for international preliminary examination has already been filed

If, at the time of filing any amendments and any accompanying statement, under Article 19, a demand for international preliminary examination has already been submitted, the applicant must preferably, at the time of filing the amendments (and any statement) with the International Bureau, also file with the International Preliminary Examining Authority a copy of such amendments (and of any statement) and, where required, a translation of such amendments for the procedure before that Authority (see Rules 55.3(a) and 62.2, first sentence). For further information, see the Notes to the demand form (PCT/IPEA/401).

Consequence with regard to translation of the international application for entry into the national phase

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that, upon entry into the national phase, a translation of the claims as amended under Article 19 may have to be furnished to the designated/elected Offices, instead of, or in addition to, the translation of the claims as filed.

For further details on the requirements of each designated/elected Office, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 336/03502	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/IL 03/00503	International filing date (day/month/year) 12/06/2003	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 13/06/2002
Applicant EXISTENT, INC.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 8 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☒ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☒ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

4

☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL 03/00503

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

A deformable medical implant, comprising: a body defining at least two anchor points, which body is adapted to be deformed so that the two anchor points are moved relative to each other; at least two elongate extensions, each extension fixed to one anchor point; a bridge (306) coupling at least two of said extensions to each other; and at least two hinges (410,414) defined on at least one of said extensions, two of said at least two hinges having different preferred bending directions and being defined on one extension.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IL 03/00503

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 44-47
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-43

A deformable medical implant comprising a body defining two anchor points, two elongate extensions, a bridge coupling at least two of said extensions and at least two hinges defined on at least one of said extensions. Method of distorting the medical implant.

2. Claims: 48-53

A catheter including an advance limiter adapted to carry a stent.

3. Claims: 54-57

A mesh stent.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IL 03/00503

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61F2/06 A61B17/00 A61M25/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61F A61M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 98/19634 A (VASCULAR SCIENCE INC) 14 May 1998 (1998-05-14) page 8, line 28 - page 9, line 18 figures 2,9 ---	48,50,51
X	US 5 769 821 A (YOUNG PAULINE R ET AL) 23 June 1998 (1998-06-23) column 6, line 37 - line 55 column 12, line 52 - line 56 figures 2A,2B ---	48,53
X	US 6 293 964 B1 (YADAV JAY S) 25 September 2001 (2001-09-25) column 4, line 15 - line 23 figures 1,5 claims 7,16 --- -/--	54



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

5 May 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

24.05.2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Amaro, H

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IL 03/00503

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 168 621 B1 (VRBA ANTHONY C) 2 January 2001 (2001-01-02) column 2, line 13 - line 26 figures 1,5 ---	54
A	EP 1 212 991 A (CORDIS CORP) 12 June 2002 (2002-06-12) paragraph '0031! - paragraph '0033! figures 4A,5 ---	1
A	US 5 607 444 A (LAM SHARON) 4 March 1997 (1997-03-04) cited in the application the whole document -----	1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IL 03/00503

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9819634	A	14-05-1998	US 5976178 A 02-11-1999
			US 6120432 A 19-09-2000
			AU 5102198 A 29-05-1998
			AU 5105798 A 29-05-1998
			AU 5162598 A 29-05-1998
			AU 5162698 A 29-05-1998
			AU 5166498 A 29-05-1998
			AU 5168398 A 29-05-1998
			AU 5179698 A 29-05-1998
			AU 5197098 A 29-05-1998
			AU 5251498 A 29-05-1998
			AU 7000498 A 29-05-1998
			EP 0951251 A2 27-10-1999
			EP 0951252 A2 27-10-1999
			EP 0996386 A1 03-05-2000
			EP 0949889 A2 20-10-1999
			JP 2001504365 T 03-04-2001
			JP 2002501399 T 15-01-2002
			JP 2001502588 T 27-02-2001
			JP 2001503303 T 13-03-2001
			US 2002087181 A1 04-07-2002
			WO 9819629 A2 14-05-1998
			WO 9819630 A2 14-05-1998
			WO 9819618 A1 14-05-1998
			WO 9819631 A1 14-05-1998
			WO 9819632 A1 14-05-1998
			WO 9819732 A1 14-05-1998
			WO 9819634 A2 14-05-1998
			WO 9819608 A1 14-05-1998
			WO 9819635 A1 14-05-1998
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			US 6302905 B1 16-10-2001
			US 2001041931 A1 15-11-2001
			US 6206912 B1 27-03-2001
			US 5931842 A 03-08-1999
			US 2002022857 A1 21-02-2002
			US 2002087046 A1 04-07-2002
			US 6186942 B1 13-02-2001
			US 2003083541 A1 01-05-2003
			US 6514196 B1 04-02-2003
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			CA 2131329 A1 16-09-1993
			WO 9317747 A1 16-09-1993
			US 5509900 A 23-04-1996
			US 6071263 A 06-06-2000
			US 6558349 B1 06-05-2003
US 6293964	B1	25-09-2001	US 6096071 A 01-08-2000
US 6168621	B1	02-01-2001	CA 2326882 A1 02-12-1999
			EP 1079768 A1 07-03-2001
			JP 2002516143 T 04-06-2002
			WO 9960953 A1 02-12-1999
			US 2002133218 A1 19-09-2002
EP 1212991	A	12-06-2002	US 2001001317 A1 17-05-2001
			AU 9714301 A 13-06-2002

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IL 03/00503

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1212991	A	CA 2364725 A1	07-06-2002
		EP 1212991 A2	12-06-2002
		JP 2002263195 A	17-09-2002
		US 2003074054 A1	17-04-2003
US 5607444	A	04-03-1997	US 5868777 A
			09-02-1999